

NOV 26 2003  
**OFFICIAL****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Agent File No.: 13738-7US SC/ip

Applicant(s): LAPOINTE, Jean et al.  
Application No.: 09/820,834  
Filed: March 30, 2001  
Title: ANCHORING MEMBER FOR A SUPPORT POST  
Examiner: SAFAVI, Michael  
Group Art Unit: 3673

**AMENDMENT C**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 25, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended) A post comprising a footing adapted to be driven into the ground, said footing including a socket member that is protected against deformation while being implanted into the ground by an outer sleeve, said outer sleeve having trailing and leading ends, said leading end being adapted to be forcibly driven into the ground in response to a driving force applied to said trailing end, said socket member being received in an axially non-interfering relationship within said outer sleeve with said leading end of said outer sleeve extending beyond said socket member so as to define a free space extending axially below said socket member for absorbing the shock in the event that an obstacle is encountered while said footing is being driven into the ground, thereby preventing the socket member from being damaged, an elongated post segment, and a connector axially inserted into said

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Date :

May 26, 2003

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Mr. Michael SAFAVI - Patent Examiner - Art Unit 3673	United States Patent and Trademark Office	Washington, D.C.	703-305-3597

**Message**

Re: United States Patent Application No. 09/820,834  
Our Ref.: 13738-7US SC/ip

Please see attached Amendment.

Barristers & Solicitors  
Patent & Trade-Mark Agents

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<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER</b>			Attorney's Docket No. 13738-7US SC/ip
Serial No. 09/820,834	Filing Date March 30, 2001	Examiner SAFAVI, Michael	Group Art Unit 3673
INVENTION ANCHORING MEMBER FOR A SUPPORT POST			

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☒ Applicant claims small-entity status.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

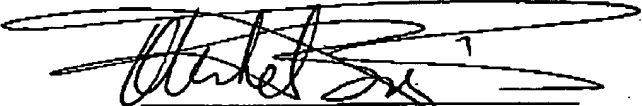
(1)		(2)		(3)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDIT. FEE		RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL	20	MINUS	20	0	X \$9. =	\$ 0		X \$18. =	\$ n/a
INDEP.	3	MINUS	3	0	X \$42. =	\$ 0		X \$84. =	\$ n/a
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIMS					+ \$140. =	\$ 0		+ \$280. =	\$ n/a
					TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	\$ 0		TOTAL	\$ n/a

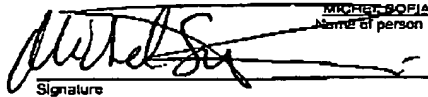
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-5113.

☐ Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and advise of such additional charges.

☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Date: May 26, 2003

  
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.	
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